

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY
SUSAN SUHANOVSKY
PRESIDENT
TORRINGTON WATER DEPARTMENT
FEBRUARY 24, 2011**

**RE: SUPPORT – SB-1020, AAC WATER RESOURCES & ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**

My name is Susan M. Suhanovsky. I am the President of The Torrington Water Company, (the "Company"). My business address is 277 Norfolk Rd., Torrington, CT

The Torrington Water Company is a privately held, investor-owned, public service water company. The Company serves approximately 40,000 people in five towns.

The Torrington Water Company (TWC) **supports SB-1020, An Act Concerning Water Resources and Economic Development**. The legislature's Regulations Review Committee rejected the regulations on two separate occasions because of concerns regarding the impact of the regulations on safe yield – the amount of water needed to meet the needs of the communities we serve – economic development and water rates. SB-1020 ensures that these issues will be addressed to provide a more balanced approach for regulating stream flow and protecting the state's rivers and streams.

- By imposing strict requirements on public water suppliers and other dam owners to make significant water releases from reservoirs into rivers and streams, DEP's revised stream flow regulations continue to call into question whether some communities will have sufficient water supplies to meet the state's public health, safety and economic development needs. SB-1020 helps address this concern by providing that the regulations may not jeopardize a public water supplier's safe yield/margin, which will ensure that communities will retain sufficient water supplies to support economic development and meet the public health and safety needs of its citizens.
- SB-1020 helps minimize the uncertainty of the potential impact of the proposed regulations on public water suppliers and economic development by requiring DEP to consider the potential impact of compliance on brownfields remediation projects, economic development projects, water rates, adequacy of public water supplies to meet public health and safety needs of the communities served, the water company's ability to maintain an adequate margin of safety, and the anticipated environmental benefits from providing the releases.

For these reasons, we urge your support for SB-1020.